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# New signs to welcome visitors to Shelby Township

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Shelby Township's Beautification Committee recently received authorization to replace four of its seven welcome signs at a cost not to exceed \$17,367, but not everyone is happy about it.

"Have you got nothing else to do with \$17,000 that you can afford to put up these signs?" asked resident Thomas Turner. "It seems like an awful waste of money."

Dub Hearon, chairman of the Beautification Committee, presented the request last month at a Board of Trustees meeting, where it was approved by a 6-1 vote, with Clerk Stanley Grot casting a nay vote.

According to Hearon, two of the signs - one

at Boston's Gourmet Pizza at Hall and Hayes roads, and another at McDonald's at Van Dyke Avenue and 26 Mile Road - will be constructed from masonry and aluminum.

Two more - one at Van Dyke Avenue and Janis Street, and another at Mount Vernon and Dequindre roads - will be breakaway-type signs designed to yield if a vehicle hits them.

"That is required by the government agency because (the sign) is in a right-of-way," Hearon said.

The signs will replace the wooden signs at each location.

"We have had to have the wooden ones, which we have up there now, repainted about three times," Hearon said. "The masonry



Source photo/Sean Delaney

**Shelby Township is replacing four of its seven welcome signs, including this one outside Boston's Gourmet Pizza at Hall and Hayes roads.**

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should last 20 years, while the aluminum sided (breakaway) ones should last 15-20 years."

Hearon said the signs will be constructed and installed by Harmon Sign Inc. for a cost not to exceed \$13,167. Thoms Bros. Landscaping Inc. will handle the masonry work for a cost not to exceed \$4,200.

"We've been dealing with them for years," Hearon said. "They were not the lowest bidder, but we selected them because they had the best bid, and we've stuck with them for a number of years."

The Beautification Committee last year replaced three wooden signs at 24 Mile and Dequindre roads, Mound Road and M-59, and Schoenherr Road and M-59 with masonry and aluminum signs, with Hearon noting that the committee is considering two more signs in the future - one at the Kroger at 23 Mile and Hayes roads, and another at 26 Mile and Hayes roads.

"I think the signs do add an attractive appearance to our township," he said. "I think the signs with the associated landscaping makes for a beautiful entryway to our township."

However, resident Ron Churchill said he believes the money the township spent on the signs could have been used for something else.

"It's a lot of money," he said. "There are enough signs in the township. Maybe take that money and spend it on something else, like the sidewalks."